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From: Assunto, Carmen
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 4:17:16 PM
Subject: US EPA Region 6 Gulf King Mine - EPA Update

Gulf King Mine – EPA Update

For folks covering the Gold King mine incident, we wanted to pass along a re-cap of Administrator McCarthy's Colorado visit yesterday and what today looks like.

McCarthy started her day yesterday with a meeting with Colorado Gov. Hickenlooper and Sen. Bennett. Over the course of the day she also spoke with Sen. Udall, Rep. Tipton, and Rep. Kirkpatrick. She also met with Rep. Lujan and toured a water sampling facility in Farmington, NM.

McCarthy also attended a briefing at the Unified EPA Area Command, visited with staff, and hosted a press briefing yesterday afternoon.

Last night EPA released from Aug. 5-9, which shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colo. area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels.

Regarding irrigation, EPA issued a \$500,000 work assignment on Monday for the delivery of water for irrigation and livestock in New Mexico. This service was previously being provided by San Juan County, NM and we are making deliveries. We understand the importance of the irrigation systems and are providing data to local jurisdictions to make informed decisions.

EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

Data, trends and map here: <http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/epa-statement-colorado-data-gold-king-mine-release>

Today, McCarthy began her day with a meeting with Navajo Nation President Begaye and his leadership team. This included a tour through the Navajo Nation and survey of the San Juan River.

McCarthy will also visit the Farmington, NM Incident Command Center, host a press availability, meet with officials from the San Juan Water Commission, and visit the Aztec Emergency Response Center.

We are working on audio and a readout from the press availability for those who can't attend in person.

Hope this is helpful for your coverage.